

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference CFE03654WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/JP2004/009375	International filing date (day/month/year) 25/06/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 26/06/2003
Applicant CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. ☐ With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box II).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box III).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regards to the **drawings**,

- a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
P 2004/009375A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G03F1/14 G03F7/20

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G03F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	ALKAISI M M ET AL: "NANOLITHOGRAPHY IN THE EVANESCENT NEAR FIELD" ADVANCED MATERIALS, VCH VERLAGSGESELLSCHAFT, WEINHEIM, DE, vol. 13, no. 12/13, 4 July 2001 (2001-07-04), pages 877-887, XP001130146 ISSN: 0935-9648 the whole document ----- -/--	1-14

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

9 September 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

27/09/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Hagner, T

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	MCNAB S J ET AL: "Analytic study of gratings patterned by evanescent near field optical lithography" JOURNAL OF VACUUM SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY B: MICROELECTRONICS PROCESSING AND PHENOMENA, AMERICAN VACUUM SOCIETY, NEW YORK, NY, US, vol. 18, no. 6, November 2000 (2000-11), pages 2900-2904, XP012008487 ISSN: 0734-211X the whole document	1-14
P,X	----- XIANGANG LUO ET AL: "Surface plasmon resonant interference nanolithography technique" APPLIED PHYSICS LETTERS AIP USA, vol. 84, no. 23, 22 April 2004 (2004-04-22), pages 4780-4782, XP002294549 ISSN: 0003-6951 the whole document	1-14
X	----- US 6 171 730 B1 (IKEDA TSUTOMU ET AL) 9 January 2001 (2001-01-09) cited in the application abstract; figures 1-9 column 1, line 55 - column 3, line 40	1,6-9, 13,14
X	----- WO 03/001869 A (CALIFORNIA INST OF TECHN) 9 January 2003 (2003-01-09) abstract; figures 1-4 page 1 - page 4 page 6 - page 16	1,6-9, 13,14
X	----- US 2001/046719 A1 (KURODA RYO ET AL) 29 November 2001 (2001-11-29) the whole document	1,6-9, 13,14

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

JP2004/009375

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6171730	B1	09-01-2001	JP	11145051 A	28-05-1999
			JP	11184094 A	09-07-1999
WO 03001869	A	09-01-2003	WO	03001869 A2	09-01-2003
			US	2003129545 A1	10-07-2003
US 2001046719	A1	29-11-2001	JP	2001308002 A	02-11-2001
			US	2004023161 A1	05-02-2004